

# PPAU Secretary's Report 2021/2022

## This Term

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In the 12 months, we went from having just been de-registered, to co-founding FUSION and fighting our fourth general election as part of that alliance.

This year, the word "Pirate" appeared on more Australians' ballot papers than ever before.

It's been a year largely spent under time pressure, with the election looming in the horizon. From forming Fusion in October, to implementing it on the Pirate side with a special National Congress in November, to immediately entering (and passing!) Fusion's membership audit (and not even under that name), to ramping up the campaign from January through to May... it's been busy.

I want to take this moment to thank everyone who's received an email or an SMS or a phone call asking "Can you step up and help?" and responded "Yes!".

This campaign was right up there in terms of scope for any of Fusion's member branches. And we couldn't have done it without the swathe of volunteers that stepped up to support our kick-arse candidates.

## Looking forward

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With the advent of FUSION, our historic membership-numbers problem is less pressing, but that won't excuse us from pulling our weight within the alliance.

We must continue to prosecute our radically open rights-and-evidence-based politics, and we must do it with an eye to continued promotion and recruitment.

Electoral politics remains a popularity contest, and a local-logistics challenge.

The term to come will provide several challenges for us to meet as part of Fusion as we look to contest state elections and raise our collective profile:

Firstly, the Victorian state election this year (party registration closes in a week; the election's in November).

Then in March of next year is the NSW state election; the deadline for registration there was the end of June, which we weren't in a position to make.

In 2024 comes the Queensland council and state elections. Our actions in the next 12 months will lay the groundwork for contesting that.

In particular, we in particular will need to decide just how much integration we will have with the Fusion. Specifically, I'm talking about whether we switch to having a joint membership database with the rest of Fusion, as the others largely already do.

(The practicalities of actually running an election campaign call for this integration, because different branches of Fusion will take the lead in different parts of the country.)

As always, this report contains a request to you, the ordinary party member reading this report. We need you to step up, seek out something to do that interests you, and then do it.

**Alex Jago**

*Secretary*

Pirate Party Australia

July 2022